



SURFACE TREATMENT OF MEDICAL DEVICE

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to the surface treatment of medical devices including ophthalmic lenses, stents, implants and catheters. In particular, the present invention is directed to a simple, low cost method of modifying the surface of a medical device to increase its wettability.

BACKGROUND

Medical devices such as ophthalmic lenses made from silicone-containing materials have been investigated for a number of years. Such materials can generally be sub-divided into two major classes, namely hydrogels and non-hydrogels. Non-hydrogels do not absorb appreciable amounts of water, whereas hydrogels can absorb and retain water in an equilibrium state. Regardless of their water content, both non-hydrogel and hydrogel silicone medical devices tend to have relatively hydrophobic, non-wettable surfaces that have a high affinity for lipids. This problem is of particular concern with contact lenses.

Those skilled in the art have long recognized the need for modifying the surface of such silicone contact lenses so that they are compatible with the eye. It is known that increased hydrophilicity of the contact lens surface improves the wettability of the contact lenses. This in turn is associated with improved wear comfort of contact lenses. Additionally, the surface of the lens can affect the lens's susceptibility to deposition, particularly the deposition of proteins and lipids from the tear fluid during lens wear. Accumulated deposition can cause eye discomfort or even inflammation. In the case of extended wear lenses (i.e. lenses used without daily removal of the lens before sleep), the surface is especially important, since extended wear lens must be designed for high standards of comfort and biocompatibility over an extended period of time.

Silicone lenses have been subjected to plasma surface treatment to improve their surface properties, e.g., surfaces have been rendered more hydrophilic, deposit-resistant,

scratch-resistant, or otherwise modified. Examples of previously-disclosed plasma surface treatments include subjecting contact lens surfaces to a plasma comprising an inert gas or oxygen (see, for example, U.S. Patent Nos. 4,055,378; 4,122,942; and 4,214,014); various hydrocarbon monomers (see, for example, U.S. Patent No. 4,143,949); and combinations of oxidizing agents and hydrocarbons such as water and ethanol (see, for example, WO 95/04609 and U.S. Patent No. 4,632,844). U.S. Patent No. 4,312,575 to Peyman et al. discloses a process for providing a barrier coating on a silicone or polyurethane lens by subjecting the lens to an electrical glow discharge (plasma) process conducted by first subjecting the lens to a hydrocarbon atmosphere followed by subjecting the lens to oxygen during flow discharge, thereby increasing the hydrophilicity of the lens surface.

U.S. Patents 4,168,112, 4,321,261 and 4,436,730, all issued to Ellis et al., disclose methods for treating a charged contact lens surface with an oppositely charged ionic polymer to form a polyelectrolyte complex on the lens surface that improves wettability.

U.S. Patent 4,287,175 to Katz discloses a method of wetting a contact lens that comprises inserting a water-soluble solid polymer into the cul-de-sac of the eye. The disclosed polymers include cellulose derivatives, acrylates and natural products such as gelatin, pectins and starch derivatives.

U.S. Patent 5,397,848 to Yang et al. discloses a method of incorporating hydrophilic constituents into silicone polymer materials for use in contact and intra-ocular lenses.

U.S. Patents 5,700,559 and 5,807,636, both to Sheu et al., disclose hydrophilic articles (for example, contact lenses) comprising a substrate, an ionic polymeric layer on the substrate and a disordered polyelectrolyte coating ionically bonded to the polymeric layer.

U.S. Patent 5,705,583 to Bowers et al. discloses biocompatible polymeric surface coatings. The polymeric surface coatings disclosed include coatings synthesized from monomers bearing a center of positive charge, including cationic and zwitterionic monomers.

European Patent Application EP 0 963 761 A1 discloses biomedical devices with coating that are said to be stable, hydrophilic and antimicrobial, and which are formed using a coupling agent to bond a carboxyl-containing hydrophilic coating to the surface by ester or amide linkages.

Thus, it is desired to provide a silicone hydrogel contact lens with an optically clear, hydrophilic surface film that will not only exhibit improved wettability, but which will generally allow the use of a silicone hydrogel contact lens in the human eye for extended period of time. In the case of a silicone hydrogel lens for extended wear, it would be desirable to provide a contact lens with a surface that is also highly permeable to oxygen and water. Such a surface treated lens would be comfortable to wear in actual use and would allow for the extended wear of the lens without irritation or other adverse effects to the cornea. It would be desirable to manufacture such a surface treated lens without the need for an oxidation step such as plasma treatment or corona discharge treatment.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to a method for improving the wettability of a medical device, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a medical device formed from a monomer mixture comprising a hydrophilic monomer and a silicone-containing monomer, wherein said medical device has not been subjected to a surface oxidation treatment, and
- (b) contacting a surface of the medical device with a solution including a polymer or copolymer of (meth)acrylic acid, whereby the polymer or copolymers of meth(acrylic) acid forms a complex with the hydrophilic monomer on the contact lens surface without a surface oxidation treatment step and without the addition of a coupling agent.

In a preferred embodiment, the meth(acrylic) acid polymer or copolymer comprises acid content of at least 40 mole percent, more preferably at least about 50 mole percent.

The method of the invention requires neither surface oxidation treatment step nor the addition of a coupling agent. The term "coupling agent" means an entity other than the medical device or the hydrophilic coating material that forms a linkage between the surface of the medical device and the hydrophilic coating material. Examples of linkages provided by coupling agents include ester linkages and amide linkages.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows the relationship of lens diameter and water content (weight percent) to poly(acrylic acid) (PAA) concentration for the substrate material identified as RD 677 in Example 1.

FIG. 2 shows the dependence of lens diameter (y-axis) upon the concentration of poly(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid) for the surface treatment of the substrate material RD1077 in separate experiments using different concentrations of poly(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid) as shown in Table 6.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

As mentioned above, the present invention is directed to a silicone hydrogel contact lens having a coating and a method of manufacturing the same, which coating improves the hydrophilicity and lipid resistance of the lens. The poly(acrylic) acid complexation coating allows a lens that could otherwise not be comfortably worn in the eye to be worn in the eye for an extended period of time, for example, more than 24 hours at a time.

The method of the present invention is useful with biocompatible materials including both soft and rigid materials commonly used for ophthalmic lenses, including contact lenses. The preferred substrates are hydrogel materials, including silicone hydrogel materials. Particularly preferred materials include vinyl functionalized polydimethylsiloxanes copolymerized with hydrophilic monomers as well as fluorinated methacrylates and methacrylate functionalized fluorinated polyethylene oxides copolymerized with hydrophilic monomers.

Examples of substrate materials useful in the present invention are taught in U.S. Patents 5,908,906 to Künzler et al.; 5,714,557 to Künzler et al.; 5,710,302 to Künzler et al.; 5,708,094 to Lai et al.; 5,616,757 to Bambury et al.; 5,610,252 to Bambury et al.; 5,512,205 to Lai; 5,449,729 to Lai; 5,387,662 to Künzler et al. and 5,310,779 to Lai; which patents are incorporated by reference as if set forth at length herein.

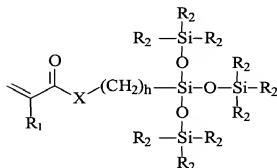
The invention provides a method for the preparation of wettable silicone-based hydrogel formulations utilizing a poly(acrylic) acid (PAA) surface complexation. Silicone hydrogel formulations containing hydrophilic polymers, such as polydimethylacrylamide or polyvinylpyrrolidinone, are treated with water-based solutions containing PAA or PAA co-polymers to render a lubricious, stable, highly wettable PAA-based surface coating. The treatment is performed at room temperature or under autoclave conditions. No additional oxidative surface treatment such as corona discharge or plasma oxidation is required. No separate coupling agent as described herein is required. The mechanism of this treatment is presently believed to be a surface complexation reaction between PAA and vinylpyrrolidone groups on the lens surface that occurs through a hydrogen bonding mechanism.

Surface coating materials useful in the present invention include P(vinylpyrrolidinone(VP)-co-acrylic acid(AA)), P(methylvinylether-alt-maleic acid), P(acrylic acid-graft-ethyleneoxide), P(acrylic acid-co-methacrylic acid), P(acrylamide-co-AA), P(acrylamide-co-AA), P(AA-co-maleic), and P(butadiene-maleic acid).

Coating materials preferred for use in the present invention include those polymers containing carboxylic acid functionality. Particularly preferred polymers are characterized by acid contents of at least about 30 mole percent, preferably at least about 40 mole percent.

The invention is applicable to a wide variety of materials, and silicone hydrogel contact lens materials are particularly preferred. Hydrogels in general are a well-known class of materials that comprise hydrated, cross-linked polymeric systems containing water in an equilibrium state. Silicone hydrogels generally have a water content greater than about 5 weight percent and more commonly between about 10 to about 80 weight percent. Such materials are usually prepared by polymerizing a mixture containing at

Examples of applicable silicon-containing monomeric units include bulky polysiloxanylalkyl (meth)acrylic monomers. An example of bulky polysiloxanylalkyl (meth)acrylic monomers are represented by the following Formula I:



each R₂ independently denotes a lower alkyl radical, phenyl radical or a group represented by

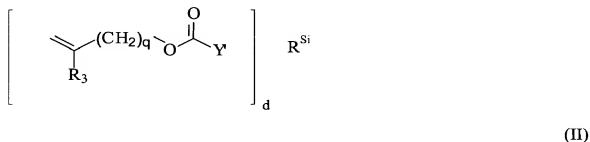


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Some preferred bulky monomers are methacryloxypropyl tris(trimethylsiloxy)silane or tris(trimethylsiloxy)silylpropyl methacrylate, sometimes referred to as TRIS.

Another class of representative silicon-containing monomers includes silicone-containing vinyl carbonate or vinyl carbamate monomers such as: 1,3-bis[4-vinyloxycarbonyloxy]but-1-yl]tetramethyl-disiloxane; 3-(trimethylsilyl)propyl vinyl carbonate; 3-(vinylloxycarbonylthio)propyl-[tris(trimethylsiloxy)silane]; 3-[tris(trimethylsiloxy)silyl] propyl vinyl carbamate; 3-[tris(trimethylsiloxy)silyl] propyl allyl carbamate; 3-[tris(trimethylsiloxy)silyl]propyl vinyl carbonate; t-butyltrimethylsiloxyethyl vinyl carbonate; trimethylsilylethyl vinyl carbonate; and trimethylsilylmethyl vinyl carbonate.

An example of silicon-containing vinyl carbonate or vinyl carbamate monomers are represented by Formula II:



wherein:

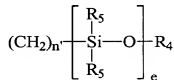
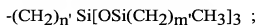
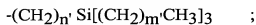
Y' denotes -O-, -S- or -NH-;

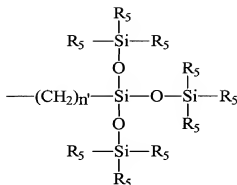
R^{Si} denotes a silicone-containing organic radical;

R₃ denotes hydrogen or methyl;

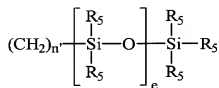
d is 1, 2, 3 or 4; and q is 0 or 1.

Suitable silicone-containing organic radicals R^{Si} include the following:



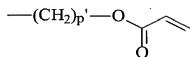


and



wherein:

R_4 denotes

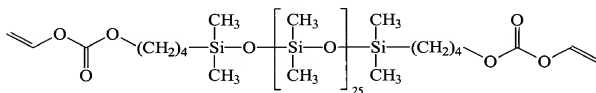


wherein p' is 1 to 6;

R_5 denotes an alkyl radical or a fluoroalkyl radical having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

e is 1 to 200; n is 1, 2, 3 or 4; and m' is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5.

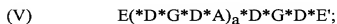
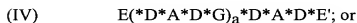
An example of a particular species within Formula II is represented by Formula III.



(III)

Another class of silicon-containing monomers includes polyurethane-polysiloxane macromonomers (also sometimes referred to as prepolymers), which may

have hard-soft-hard blocks like traditional urethane elastomers. They may be end-capped with a hydrophilic monomer such as HEMA. Examples of such silicone urethanes are disclosed in a variety of publications, including Lai, Yu-Chin, "The Role of Bulky Polysiloxanylalkyl Methacrylates in Polyurethane-Polysiloxane Hydrogels," *Journal of Applied Polymer Science*, Vol. 60, 1193-1199 (1996). PCT Published Application No. WO 96/31792 discloses examples of such monomers, which disclosure is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. Further examples of silicone urethane monomers are represented by Formulae IV and V:



wherein:

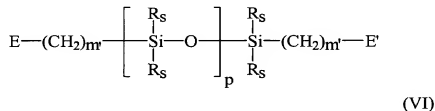
D denotes an alkyl diradical, an alkyl cycloalkyl diradical, a cycloalkyl diradical, an aryl diradical or an alkylaryl diradical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms;

G denotes an alkyl diradical, a cycloalkyl diradical, an alkyl cycloalkyl diradical, an aryl diradical or an alkylaryl diradical having 1 to 40 carbon atoms and which may contain ether, thio or amine linkages in the main chain;

* denotes a urethane or ureido linkage;

a is at least 1;

A denotes a divalent polymeric radical of Formula VI:



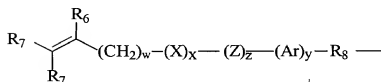
wherein:

each R_s independently denotes an alkyl or fluoro-substituted alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which may contain ether linkages between carbon atoms;

m' is at least 1; and

p is a number which provides a moiety weight of 400 to 10,000;

each of E and E' independently denotes a polymerizable unsaturated organic radical represented by Formula VII:



(VII)

wherein:

R₆ is hydrogen or methyl;

R₇ is hydrogen, an alkyl radical having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or a -CO-Y-R₉ radical wherein Y is -O-, -S- or -NH-;

R₈ is a divalent alkylene radical having 1 to 10 carbon atoms;

R₉ is a alkyl radical having 1 to 12 carbon atoms;

X denotes -CO- or -OCO-;

Z denotes -O- or -NH-;

Ar denotes an aromatic radical having 6 to 30 carbon atoms;

w is 0 to 6; x is 0 or 1; y is 0 or 1; and z is 0 or 1.

A more specific example of a silicone-containing urethane monomer is represented by Formula (VIII):

CC(=C)C(=O)OCC

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those taught in U.S. Patents 5,512,205; 5,449,729; and 5,310,779 to Lai are also useful substrates in accordance with the invention. Preferably, the silane macromonomer is a silicon-containing vinyl carbonate or vinyl carbamate or a polyurethane-polysiloxane having one or more hard-soft-hard blocks and end-capped with a hydrophilic monomer.

Suitable hydrophilic monomers include those monomers that, once polymerized, can form a complex with poly(acrylic acid). The suitable monomers form hydrogels useful in the present invention and include, for example, monomers that form complexes with poly(acrylic acid) and its derivatives. Examples of useful monomers include amides such as dimethylacrylamide, dimethylmethacrylamide, cyclic lactams such as n-vinyl-2-pyrrolidone and poly(alkene glycols) functionalized with polymerizable groups. Examples of useful functionalized poly(alkene glycols) include poly(diethylene glycols) of varying chain length containing monomethacrylate or dimethacrylate end caps. In a preferred embodiment, the poly(alkene glycol) polymer contains at least two alkene glycol monomeric units. Still further examples are the hydrophilic vinyl carbonate or vinyl carbamate monomers disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,070,215, and the hydrophilic oxazolone monomers disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,910,277. Other suitable hydrophilic monomers will be apparent to one skilled in the art.

In particular regard to contact lenses, the fluorination of certain monomers used in the formation of silicone hydrogels has been indicated to reduce the accumulation of deposits on contact lenses made therefrom, as described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,954,587, 5,079,319 and 5,010,141. Moreover, the use of silicone-containing monomers having certain fluorinated side groups, i.e. $-(CF_2)_n-H$, have been found to improve compatibility between the hydrophilic and silicone-containing monomeric units, as described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,387,662 and 5,321,108.

Solvents useful in the surface treatment (contacting) step of the present invention include solvents that readily solubilize proton donating solutes such as carboxylic acids, sulfonic acids, fumaric acid, maleic acids, anhydrides such as maleic anhydride and functionalized alcohols such as vinyl alcohol. Preferred solvents include tetrahydrofuran (THF), acetonitrile, N,N-dimethyl formamide (DMF), and water. The most preferred solvent is water.

The surface treatment solution is preferably acidified before the contact step. The pH of the solution is suitably less than 7, preferably less than 5 and more preferably less than 4. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the pH of the solution is about 3.5. For a discussion of the theory underlying the role of pH in complexation reactions in general, see *Advances in Polymer Science*, published by Springer-Verlag, Editor H.J. Cantow, et al, V45, 1982, pages 17-63.

EXAMPLES

Several silicone hydrogel lens formulations were treated, in separate experiments, with a 0.1% PAA, 1.0% PAA and a 0.25% Carbopol solutions. Carbopol is a lightly cross-linked poly(acrylic acid) ("PAA"). The reported molecular weights of the PAA and Carbopol are 450,000 and 2,500,000, respectively.

The samples designated below as RD677 and RD1077 are vynagels. U.S. Patent 5,616,757 to Bambury et al. teaches methods for making vynagel contact lens materials. The samples designated below as RD954 are fluorogels. U.S. Patent 5,710,302 to Künzler et al. teaches methods for making fluorogel contact lens materials. The samples designated below as RD933 are fumarates. U.S. Patents 5,496,871, 5,449,729, and 5,420,324 teach methods for making fumarate contact lens materials.

Example 1

The surface treatment consists of immersing the lenses in the PAA solution followed by a 30-minute autoclave cycle. The complexation surface treatment of the invention is also effective at room temperature. The lenses are then rinsed in distilled water and re-autoclaved in a suitable buffer, for example a borate buffer.

Excellent wetting characteristics were achieved for this procedure (Table 1). A significant reduction in sessile drop contact angle was observed for both the RD954 (fluorogel) and the RD677 (vynagel) lenses. Inspection of lenses using a cosmetic comparator (Bendix 10x cosmetic comparator Model 10) gives a clarity of 2 for the 1% and 0.1% PAA treated Vynagel lenses and a clarity of 4 for the 0.25% treated Carbopol lenses. The clarity scale for the cosmetic comparator used in the present example is 0 for

Table 1
Mechanical and Physical Property Results
For PAA and Carbopol Treated Vynagel and Fluorogel Lenses

<i>Material</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Modulus</i>	<i>Diameter</i>	<i>Clarity</i>	<i>% Water</i>	<i>Contact Angle</i>		<i>Lipid deposition (ug)</i>	<i>Protein deposition (ug)</i>
						<i>before</i>	<i>after</i>		
RD677 (vynagel)	test 0.25% carbopol	115	14.274	4	38.7	110	65		
	test 0.1% PAA	115	14.229	2	38	110	67		
	test 1.0% PAA	150	14.293	2/3	39.7	110	50	51	26.7
	control RD677	110	13.969	4	35.2	110		402	0
RD954 (fluorogel)	1.0% celanex cast					105	42		
	1.0% polypropylene cast					101	57		
RD1077 (vynagel)	Control	99	13.82		38.7				
(low acid-no plasma)	0.1% P(AA)	93			41.8				
	450K								
	0.05%		14		na				
		PAA Conc.	Diameter	% Water					
		0	13.82	35.2					
		0.1	14.229	38					
		1	14.293	39.7					

Example 2 – Stability of Surface Treatment

A stability study comparing PAA treated lenses was completed. Results are shown in Table 3. RD677 and RD 954 lenses were placed in an 85°C oven for 7 days (to simulate a one-year shelf life) and 17 days (to simulate a three-year shelf-life). The lenses were then removed from the oven and measured for water and isopropanol content. Test and control lenses gave identical results for percentage water loss and percentage weight loss following the 7- and 17-day test period. The combined data showed that the surface complexation had little effect on the overall stability of the lenses. The IPA follow-up extraction measured water insoluble degradation-by-products. The results of Example 2 are shown below in Table 2.

Table 2

PAA stability Autoclave
Treatment Material

Control/Test [PAA]	Baseline		7 day 85C		17 day 85C		Baseline		7 day 85C		17 day 85C	
	% water	% IPA loss	% water	% IPA	% water	% IPA	% water	% IPA	% water	% IPA	% water	% IPA
RD933	33.7	2.8	37.1	2.4	35.6	2.2	37.1	2.4	35.6	2.2	37.1	2.2
0.10% control	36.6	2.1	37.8	1.8	36.3	2.3	37.8	1.8	36.3	2.3	37.8	2.3
Fluorogel 40 (RD954)	48.1	4.9	52.1	4.6	49.2	4.5	52.1	4.6	49.2	4.5	52.1	4.5
0.10% control	48.8	3.2	50.7	3	48.3	8	50.7	3	48.3	8	50.7	8
Vynagel (RD677)	36.9	4.6	40.5	2.7	39	3.1	40.5	2.7	39	3.1	40.5	3.1
0.10% control	35.4	2.4	39.5	2.1	38.2	3	39.5	2.1	38.2	3	39.5	3
1% control	40.3	1.7	39.7	2.6	38	2.3	39.7	2.6	38	2.3	39.7	2.3
D5-1077-1185	41.8	0.5	42.5	2.2	42.2	1.5	42.5	2.2	42.2	1.5	42.5	1.5
low acid no plasma control	38.7	0.7	39.8	2.1	39.8	1.5	39.8	2.1	39.8	1.5	39.8	1.5

7 day
85C
mod.

Baseline
mod.

7 day
85C
mod.

17 day
85C
mod.

Baseline
mod.

7 day
85C
mod.

Examples 3 and 4

Tables 3 and 4 provide a list of acid containing polymers that were used in the complexation of RD677 (vynagel). This summary provides data for both the autoclave treatment and a sonication treatment. For the sonication step, the lenses are placed in a beaker containing the polymer solution and sonicated for two hours at a temperature between room temperature and about 40°C using a Branson Model 5200 sonicator.

Tables 3 and 4 also list the wetting and lubricity characteristics of the treated lenses. The sonication method consists of immersing the lenses in the polymer solution and sonicating the lenses at room temperature for two hours. This procedure offers the advantage that lenses can be surface treated at the lens processing step (following extraction and prior to cosmetic inspection). In the autoclave procedure, the vials need to be re-opened, re-extracted in distilled water and re-autoclaved in borate prior to use.

Table 3

Complexation	Complexation via autoclave treatment			
Lens Material	Polymer (0.1% solution unless noted)	Conditions	Surface characteristics	Diameter
RD677 test lens	PVP-co-AA (25%) 96K (0.05%)	auto	fair wetting/no lubricity	14.241
	PVP-co-AA (25%) 96K (0.1%)	auto	fair wetting/no lubricity	14.213
	MVE-alt-MA 1.98M (0.05%)	auto	fair wetting/no lubricity	14.183
	MVE-alt-MA 1.98M (0.1%)	auto	fair wetting/no lubricity	14.145
	PAA-sodium-graft PEO acidified to 3 (0.05%)	auto	fair wetting/marginal lub	14.209
	PAA-sodium-graft PEO acidified to 3 (0.1%)	auto	fair wetting/marginal lubricity	14.145
	P(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid) 200K acidified 30/70 (0.05)	auto	excellent wetting/lubricity	14.308
	P(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid) 200K acidified 30/70 (0.1)	auto	excellent wetting/lubricity	na
	Carbopol 940 (0.05%)	auto	excellent wetting/lubricity	na
	Carbopol 940 (0.1%)	auto	good wetting/fair lubricity	14.166
RD677 control lens	borate buffer	auto	no wetting or lubricity	14.195

Complexation

Table 4

Lens Material	Polymer (0.1% solution unless noted)	Conditions	Surface characteristics	Diameter
RD677 test lens	P(vinylpyrrolidone-(VP-co-acrylic acid(AA)) (25%AA) 96K	balsonic 2hrs	good wetting/lubricious	14.213
	P(methylvinylether-alt-maleic acid) 1.98M	balsonic 2hrs	good wetting/fair lubricity	14.183
	P(acrylic acid-graft-ethyleneoxide)	balsonic 2hrs	good wetting/fair lubricity	14.145
	P(acrylic acid-co-methacrylic acid 34K	balsonic 2hrs	fair wetting/fair lubricity	
	P(acrylamide-co-AA) Mw 200K 10% AA	balsonic 2hrs	poor wetting/no lubricity	
	P(acrylamide-co-AA Mw 200K 1.5% AA	balsonic 2hrs	poor wetting/no lubricity	
	P(AA) 4M	balsonic 2hrs	good wetting/lubricious	
	P(AA-co-maleic) to pH3 70K	balsonic 2hrs	excellent wetting and lubricity	
	P(AA) followed by PVP 1% Mw 1.3M	balsonic 2hrs	no wetting/no lubricity	
	P(AA) followed by imidazolidinone 1% solution	balsonic 2hrs	no wetting/no lubricity	
	P(maleic acid) polyscience	balsonic 2hrs	poor wetting/no lubricity	
	P(butadiene-maleic acid (polyscience)	balsonic 2hrs	good wetting/fair lubricity	
	P(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid 200K acidified 30/70	balsonic 2hrs	excellent wetting and lubricity	
	1% pvp	balsonic 2hrs	no wetting/no lubricity	
	940 (0.1%)	balsonic 2hrs	good wetting/lubricity	14.166
RD677 control lens	borate buffer	balsonic 2hrs	no wetting/no lubricity	14

Tables 5 and 6 show the sonication and autoclave treatment results for material RD1077. Similar wetting and lubricity characteristics were achieved. Figure 3 shows the dependence of lens diameter versus concentration of the poly(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid) solution.

Table 5

Complexation

Lens Material	Polymer and concentration	Conditions	Surface characteristics (11/06/98)	Diameter	Clarity
RD1077 test lens	PVP-co-AA (25%) 96K (1.0)	autoclave	light haze, excellent wetting, lubricity	14.196	2
	0.1	autoclave	clear, poor wetting	14.06	4
	0.05	autoclave	good clarity, lubricity and wetting	13.92	
	MVE-alt-MA 1.98M (1.0)	autoclave	slight haze, excellent wetting, lubricity	14.14	
	0.1	autoclave	slight haze, excellent wetting	14.03	
	0.05	autoclave	slight haze, excellent wetting, lubricity	13.95	
	PAA-sodium-graft PEO acidified to 3 (0.1)	autoclave	good clarity, no wetting, no lubricity	na	
		autoclave	na	na	
	P(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid) 200K acidified 90/10 (1.0)	autoclave	clear, good wetting, no lubricity	13.12	
	0.1	autoclave	poor wetting, no lubricity	13.7	
	0.05	autoclave	poor wetting, no lubricity	13.85	
	P(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid) 200K acidified 60/40 (1.0)	autoclave	clear, excellent wetting, fragile	13	2
	0.1	autoclave	clear, excellent wetting, fragile	13.98	2
	0.05	autoclave	slight haze, wets well, lubricious	14.12	2
	P(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid) 200K acidified 30/70 (1.0)	autoclave	clear, good wetting, lubricious	14.12	4
	0.1	autoclave	clear, good wetting, lubricious	14.19	4
	0.05	autoclave	clear, good wetting, lubricious	14.09	4
	Carbopol 940 (0.1%)	autoclave	light haze, excellent wetting, lubricious	13.92	2
	0.05	autoclave	very good wetting, marginal lubricity	14.01	4
	P(AA) 4M (0.1)	autoclave	light haze, good wetting, lubricious	13.98	1
	0.05	autoclave	good wetting, marginal lubricity	13.92	3
RD1077 control lens	borate buffer	autoclave	no wetting or lubricity	13.8	

Complexation

Table 6

Lens Material	Polymer and concentration	Conditions	Surface characteristics	Clarity	Diameter
RD1077					
no plasma					
	PVP-co-AA (25%) 96K (1.0)	2 hr sonication	light haze, excellent wetting and lubricity	3	14.14
	0.1	2 hr sonication	clear, poor wetting	5	14.03
	0.05	2 hr sonication	good clarity, marginal lubricity and wetting		14.02
	MVE-ale-MA 1.98M (1.0)	2 hr sonication	light haze, excellent wetting and lubricity	3	13.786
	0.1	2 hr sonication	light haze, excellent wetting and lubricity		14.065
	0.05	2 hr sonication	light haze, excellent wetting and lubricity		14.084
	PAA-sodium-graft PEO acidified to 3 (0.1)	2 hr sonication	good clarity, no wetting, no lubricity		na
		2 hr sonication	na	na	na
	polyacrylamide-co-acrylic acid 200K acidified 90/10 (1.0)	2 hr sonication	clear, good wetting, no lubricity		13
	0.1	2 hr sonication	poor wetting, no lubricity		13.14
	0.05	2 hr sonication	poor wetting, no lubricity		13.85
	polyacrylamide-co-acrylic acid 200K acidified 60/40	2 hr sonication	clear, excellent wetting, fragile	3	prec.
	0.1	2 hr sonication	clear, excellent wetting, fragile	3	na
	0.05	2 hr sonication	light haze, excellent wetting and lubricity		13.73
	polyacrylamide-co-acrylic acid 200K acidified 30/70 (1.0)	2 hr sonication	clear, good wetting, lubricious	4	14.15
	0.1	2 hr sonication	clear, good wetting, lubricious	3	14.075
	0.05	2 hr sonication	clear, good wetting, lubricious	2	na
	940 (0.1%)	2 hr sonication	light haze, excellent wetting, lubricity	4	14.18
	0.05	2 hr sonication	very good wetting, marginal lubricity	4	13.6
	P(AA) 4M (0.1%)	2 hr sonication	light haze, good wetting, lubricious	4	14.06
	0.05	2 hr sonication	good wetting, marginal lubricity	4	14.05
RD1077 control lens	borate buffer	2 hr sonication	no wetting or lubricity	4	13.8
	note: wet=wetting and lub=lubricious				

Many other modifications and variations of the present invention are possible in light of the teachings herein. It is therefore understood that, within the scope of the claims, the present invention can be practiced other than as herein specifically described.